

VZCZCXRO8626  
OO RUEHROV  
DE RUEHJM #1370 2111407  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 291407Z JUL 08  
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2306  
INFO RUEHXX/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NSC PRIORITY

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 001370

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

NEA FOR FRONT OFFICE, NSC FOR ABRAMS/SINGH/PASCUAL

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [KWBG](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [IS](#)  
SUBJECT: MULTIPLE IDF INCURSIONS NABLUS; PA INVESTIGATING  
CAUSE OF WAREHOUSE FIRE

¶1. (SBU) PA security officials told PolOff and POL FSN July 29 that the IDF entered Nablus late July 28 and early July 29, arresting three Fatah members, including M'amun al-Safadi in the Nablus Kasbah (Old City) and occupied a five-story building for four hours. Nablus Governor Jamal Muhaysin told POL FSN that the incursions were not coordinated with the PA and have become a "daily embarrassment" to PA security forces.

¶2. (SBU) Governor Muhaysin and PA security officials told POL FSN that the PA is investigating an early July 29 fire that burned the Qasr Hindiya furniture warehouse to the ground, causing an estimated USD 3 million in damages and commercial losses. Palestinian media reported that the fire was likely caused by Israeli smoke grenades and flash-bang devices (the IDF was operating in the vicinity of the warehouse before the fire started), but Muhaysin and other PA officials said the fire's cause is not clear and must be investigated. The building's owner said arson related to Fatah-Hamas feuding is also a possible cause.

WALLES